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SUBJECT Two Training Regiments in the Tapolca Region;  
the Airfield at Tapolca

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1. Two training regiments were active in the Tapolca region in the summer of 1951. One of these regiments was encamped in tents near Lesencze-István (035) and the other, the so called Győr Regiment, in a camp 10 kilometers west of there, towards Rezi (D25). In the latter camp were troops from the Győr and Moson-Magyarovár regions.
2. The regiment at Lesencze-István had a full strength of about 1400. The men had been called up from the region of Sopron and the Great Plain (Alföld), and all belonged to the class of 1927. The regimental commander was a captain, a former stone quarry workman from Lesencze; Political Officer: Lt. Kálmán Horváth; Adjutant: Lt. István Lakó.
3. The regiment was organized in 4 battalions;    
 The 1st Battalion consisted of two reconnaissance companies.  
 The 2nd Battalion consisted of a mortar and an anti-tank battery.  
 The 3rd Battalion had two rifle companies and one machine gun company.  
 The 4th Battalion was made up of about 300 college students, including medical students.
4. The training period was three months for the 1st Battalion; one month for the 4th Battalion, and two months for the other two. The 2nd Battalion had six 81 mm. mortars and six 76.2 mm. anti-tank guns without muzzle screens. The rifle companies had a strength of 124 men and 12 instructors, 8 light machine guns, 24 machine pistols, and automatic rifles for each man. The machine gun company had six Maxim machine guns.
5. The Commander of the 3rd Battalion was First Lieutenant Mako (fnu); Adjutant, Second Lieutenant Rudolf Keszelicze; Political Officer, Lieutenant István Tóth. The Commander of the 1st Rifle Company was Lieutenant András Pokrovenszky; Political Officer, Platoon Leader Dezső Fűredi.

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6. The drafties were relieved beginning 1 April, 1951. The university men reported for duty 1 July 1951. A new draft (sic) for the 3rd Battalion began 27 July 1951. Training activity was discontinued in October. The camp was inspected twice in August 1951 by a Russian Colonel.
7. The daily schedule: reveille, 5:00 AM; calisthenics, 5:30-5:45 AM; breakfast, 5:45 AM; company parade, 6:30 AM; exercises, 7:00-AM-1:00 PM; dinner, 1:30 PM; exercises, 3:00-6:00 PM; school, 6:00-8:00 PM; supper, 8:00 PM; political lectures, 9:00-10:00 PM; retreat.
8. The food was very poor and inadequate. Breakfast: paprika, tomatoes, or beans; pea soup with bread. Dinner: vegetables with meat. Supper same as breakfast. Recruits were not permitted to receive packages. There was only one well available for the entire regiment. There the men were hardly able to wash. A pretty severe epidemic of dysentery prevailed; in one company of 124 men, 18 were sick.
9. Training: the troops spent the whole day in the field; they received intensive practical training and only little theoretical instruction. Attack positions were chosen 200 meters apart, there the troops prepared for the attack and carried out the attack. This was done in quickstep (but not on the run) with steady fire from the carbines, machine pistols, etc.
10. At the Tapolcza Airfield the Hungarian air troops practiced dive bombing. On Wednesdays cement-loaded practice bombs were dropped which made smoke bursts on impact. About 50 ATA airplanes with Hungarian motors (Kovács?) were stationed there. Ten or 12 jet planes [redacted] coming from Pápá, were temporarily located at the field.

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